

June 20, 2013

The Honorable Matt Schultz
Secretary of State of Iowa
State Capitol
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I hereby transmit Senate File 447, an Act relating to appropriations to the justice system and including effective dates.

Senate File 447 is approved on this date with the following exceptions, which I hereby disapprove.

I am unable to approve the designated portion of the item designated as Section 1, subsection 1, lettered paragraph b. This item unduly restricts the Department of Justice from closing facilities and transitioning to new, more effective community-based services for victims. The program must have the flexibility to provide services to victims in the most efficient and effective way possible.

I am unable to approve the designated portion of the item designated as Section 1, subsection 1, lettered paragraph b. This item creates carry-forward language which is unnecessary for the Department of Justice. The carry-forward language does not advance my goals of returning predictability and sustainability to government budgeting.

I am unable to approve the designated portion of the item designated as Section 3, subsection 1, lettered paragraph a. This item requires the Department of Corrections to submit a report to the legislature regarding plans for the Fort Madison Correctional Facility. Although I support transparency efforts, this requirement is redundant as this report was submitted on January 15, 2013 and is already available to the legislature.

I am unable to approve the item designated as Section 4, subsection 1, lettered paragraph a. This item contains policy language pertaining to the Department of Corrections entering into a new contract in excess of \$100,000 for privatized services during fiscal year 2014 without prior notification of the legislature and employee organizations. However, this item allows the department to renew existing contracts without notification. This item would prevent the department from obtaining services for inmates in an effective and efficient manner. This notification unnecessarily impedes on the department's management authority.

I am unable to approve the designated portion of the item designated as Section 19, subsection 1, lettered paragraph b. This item creates carry-forward language which is unnecessary for the Department of Justice. The carry-forward language does not advance my goals of returning predictability and sustainability to government budgeting.

I am unable to approve the designated portion of the item designated as Section 21, subsection 1, lettered paragraph a. This item requires the Department of Corrections to submit a report to the legislature regarding plans for the Fort Madison Correctional Facility. Although I support transparency efforts, this requirement is redundant as this report was submitted on January 15, 2013 and is already available to the legislature.

I am unable to approve the item designated as Division IV in its entirety. This item creates a task force to study the creation of a consolidated fire and police public safety training facility. Iowa is fortunate to have dedicated firefighters and police officers. These Iowans dedicate their lives to protecting the safety and welfare of Iowans. The Department of Public Safety and the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy will continue to work to improve our system. It is my administration's goal to reduce the size and cost of government by 15% and as such, I believe this issue can be reviewed without growing the size and cost of government.

I am unable to approve the item designated as Section 45 in its entirety. This item creates carry-forward language from the balance of the Cigarette Fire Safety Standard fund to the Victim Assistance Grants program. The carry-forward language does not advance my goals of returning predictability and sustainability to government budgeting.

I am unable to approve the item designated as Section 55 in its entirety. This item permanently increases the standing limited appropriation of \$1.2 million for the Consumer Education and Litigation Fund to \$2 million. Currently, any increase over the current standing limited appropriation is reviewed by the legislature and additional funds are provided annually based on need. Before this automatic increase is made permanent, further review by the legislature needs to be conducted.

For the above reasons, I respectfully disapprove the designated items in accordance with Amendment IV of the Amendments of 1968 to the Constitution of the State of Iowa. All other items in Senate File 447 are hereby approved as of this date.

Sincerely,

TERRY E. BRANSTAD
Governor